



EMMA MCBRIDE MP
FEDERAL MEMBER FOR DOBELL

Dobell Community News

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Pictured: Emma with David Harris MP State Member for Wyong at Mardi to Mangrove pumping station.

PETITION TO STOP WALLARAH 2

In a reckless decision the Federal Liberal Government has approved the Wallarah 2 coal project within the Central Coast's water catchment.

I have been working to stop the Wallarah 2 coal mine since I was elected to Wyong Council in 2008. The risk of this mine to the Central Coast's water catchment is too great.

On February 13, I spoke in Parliament against the Morrison Government's decision to approve Wallarah 2 under the EPBC Act. Scott Morrison and the Environment Minister,

Melissa Price, must respond because our community deserves to have answers.

This mine would put our water catchment at risk from subsidence, water loss and potential contamination. The key question that remains is why the Morrison government approved it when they know it poses a threat to the Coast's drinking water?

Scott Morrison has questions to answer about the reckless approval of Wallarah 2, sign my petition at EmmaMcBride.com.au

Message from Emma

Our community fought hard to save Wyong hospital from privatisation and now it must be properly funded.

The Morrison Government cut \$3.26 million from Wyong hospital's budget for the three years to 2020 and almost \$6 million from Gosford's.

I worked as a pharmacist at Wyong hospital for almost 10 years. Hospital staff work hard and need proper support to provide quality care. Our health workers are under strain and patients deserve better.

Labor's Better Hospitals Fund will see \$2.8 billion extra invested from 2019-2025, funding more beds in emergency departments and wards, more doctors, nurses and health staff.

*Show your support for
our Better Hospitals
Fund by signing the
petition at:*

EmmaMcBride.com.au

WHAT'S INSIDE:

- **PLUG** into sunshine and save on electricity
- **HAVE YOUR SAY** on aged care quality and safety
- **LOOK AFTER** the health of your hearing



The rate of diabetes increased between 1989-90 and 2014-15 by **300%**

Source: Australian Institute of Health and Welfare.

Turning Type 1 into Type None

It's great to start a new year with good news and that's exactly what Labor's commitment to provide a record boost for Type 1 diabetes research is for many families.

I have been working with strong local advocates like Kerrie Kristidis, whose daughter Alexis has T1D, and the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation (JDRF) to boost funds for diabetes research.

That's why I'm delighted to be part of Labor's commitment to

invest \$50 million in clinical trials to support our best and brightest researchers in their quest for a cure for Australian children.

A Labor Government will extend funding for the JDRF's Clinical Research Network, established by Labor in 2010. It takes research where it's needed most, directly to people living with diabetes.

Under the Liberals, the Network's funding is due to expire in June, a decision that must be reviewed.

In our first budget, a Labor Government would extend and increase that funding for a further five years.

Kerrie Kristidis said "research is the key" and the \$50 million will ensure Australia continues to lead the way in diabetes research which can only benefit the 33,000 people on the Coast living with diabetes.

Pictured: Emma with Alexis Kristidis, Central Coast Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation Ambassador.

Plug into sunshine and save

More Central Coast families will be able to plug into the sunshine and cut their power bills thanks to Labor's Household Battery Program, a key part of our plan for more renewables and cheaper power.

Labor has announced a target of one million household battery installations by 2025.

We will make available a rebate of \$2000 for households with incomes less than \$180,000 per year, and low-cost loans will also be available, to reach the target.

I am pleased to confirm that many local households will be eligible for the battery rebate which will help families to make the switch to solar energy and cut their power bills.

Electricity bills have skyrocketed under the Coalition. During the past three years the price for electricity has increased by almost 19 per cent. That is three times faster than wages growth.

New solar panels on your roof plus a battery system will allow many homes to save more than 60% off their power bills.



A battery allows you to draw on your own stored energy at night to save more money.

By using battery storage you cut your power bills and help the environment.

Have your say on Aged Care



Aged Care matters and we must do better. That is why I support the Royal Commission into Aged Care Quality and Safety.

The Royal Commission is now taking submissions and I would encourage all residents who have experiences with aged care to share their stories.

Submissions will be accepted until at least the end of June.

For information about making a submission go to www.agedcare.royalcommission.gov.au. if you require assistance please contact my office on 4353 0127.

Labor Leader Bill Shorten personally wrote to the

Commissioner asking that the Royal Commission hear from all Australians and that hearings are held in every state and territory. We will be fighting for a hearing on the Coast.

The Royal Commission cannot resolve individual complaints so if you have concerns, raise them with the facility first.

If you cannot resolve the issue contact the Aged Care Quality and Complaints Commission on 1800 951 822 or at info@agedcarequality.gov.au.

If you need additional assistance contact the National Aged Care Advocacy Line on 1800 700 600.

Children benefit from Swim Smart

Did you know around one in five children leave primary school unable to swim 50 metres – an important water safety benchmark?

Currently access to school-based swimming lessons is a lottery, with the amount of access students get varying depending on where a child lives, which school they attend and whether their parents can afford private lessons.

Too many children are missing out on the opportunity to properly develop essential water safety and swimming skills because we do not have a national water safety program for school students.

Labor will work in partnership with state and territory governments to

deliver its Swim Smart program. We will commit \$46 million to the states and territories to work with public, catholic and independent schools, local swim schools and lifesaving clubs to ensure every student has access to a swimming and water safety program.

It will mean more lessons, extra catch-up lessons for children that need it, help with transport costs and pool entry fees and support for students with disability.



Emma with Sharyn Burgess and Kylie Hopkins at the Wyong Neighbourhood Centre's We Care Boutique.

Happy 40TH WNC!

It is Wyong Neighbourhood Centre's 40th birthday. I recently caught up with Kylie Hopkins and Sharyn Burgess at their We Care Boutique, a social enterprise activity at the centre that will launch on 5 March.

The neighbourhood centre received a \$17,000 Federal Stronger Communities Program grant to upgrade the existing hall and expand their services to help even more people in our community.



Emma with Central Coast Heart and Ray Davidson (Chair) and Mark Cooper (Manager) of the Wyong Community Branch Bendigo Bank.

Big wins for netball

2018 was a big year for netball on the Central Coast and 2019 promises to be even bigger.

Like many locals, I grew up playing netball at Baker Park in Wyong. Fast forward 30 years and I am proud to be patron of Wyong District Netball Association and the Central Coast Heart, winners of the 2018 Netball NSW Premier League Open Championship.

Congratulations to captain Amy Wild for winning Player of the Year.

Heart's head coach Amber Cross won Coach of the Year and will coach the NSW Under 17's team in this year's national championships.

Central Coast's netball community is behind the Heart and a future Labor Government will invest \$20 million over two years to Netball Australia. It's the biggest investment ever in netball by a federal government.

Watch Bill Shorten's video:

<https://youtu.be/aYIFoHLxNMI>



* Australian Sports Commission's (ASC) Aus Play participation data



Emma with Milan and Viral Pindolia, Priority Powder Coating, Tuggerah..

Local projects for local jobs

Local Central Coast businesses will have the opportunity to bid for more government contracts and major projects under a Labor's Local Projects, Local Jobs plan.

The Federal Government spends \$50 billion every year on goods and services. Labor believes that rather than contracts going to multinationals who don't care about locals or pay tax in Australia, more of that spend could be directed to local small and medium businesses if they can do the job competitively.

Local companies such as Priority Powder Coating at Tuggerah are already leading by example.

Every time you drive past a powder coated road sign there's a strong possibility it was coated in Tuggerah. The Central Coast needs more jobs, particularly for young people. So if more local businesses have access to contracts, they will be able to employ more local people.

For projects over \$10 million Labor will require bidders to develop a Plan for Local Jobs to ensure jobs are created in the regions where the work is being done.

Labor will require one in 10 workers on major projects to be apprentices from the local area and that is in addition to our TAFE commitments.

How can I help?

- Can I help you with Centrelink, Medicare, NDIS, Taxation, Defence & Veterans Affairs, or Education and Training?
- Are you celebrating a milestone birthday or wedding anniversary? We can organise a message for you.
- Does your school or community organisation need a flag?

PLEASE CONTACT MY OFFICE FOR ASSISTANCE